

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 and 22-44 are pending in this application. Claims 1-20 and 22-29, 31 and 32 are allowed. Claims 30 and 33-44 are rejected. Claims 30 and 37-44 have been canceled. Claims 1-20, 22-29 and 31-36 remain in the case for reconsideration. Reconsideration is requested. No new subject matter has been added.

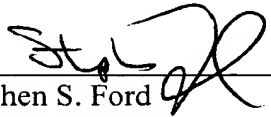
Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 30 and 33-44 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gruber et al. in view of Beigi et al. Claims 33-35 have been amended to include limitations indicated as allowable by the Examiner. The rejection of claims 30 and 37-44 are respectfully traversed. However, to further the case to issuance Claims 30 and 37-44 have been cancelled for possible prosecution in a continuation application. Therefore, the above rejection with respect to claims 30 and 37-44 is moot.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-20, 22-29 and 31-36 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

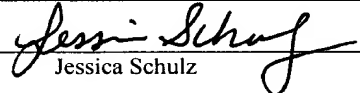
Respectfully submitted,



Stephen S. Ford
Reg. No. 35,139

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents,
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

Date: 3/22/04

Signature: 
Jessica Schulz

MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C.
1030 SW Morrison Street
Portland, OR 97205
(503) 222-3613
Customer No. 20575